

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 738

By Cohen

A RESOLUTION to commend Dr. Brian E. Noland for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brian E. Noland is one such individual who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure as the Associate Executive Director of Policy, Planning and Research for the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC), Dr. Noland distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to this State; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brian Noland, recently named to the position of Chancellor of West Virginia's higher education system, held increasingly responsible positions at the THEC, culminating in more than three years as the Associate Executive Director of Policy, Planning, and Research; and

WHEREAS, a native of Sterling, Virginia, Dr. Noland is a graduate of West Virginia University, where he received bachelor's and master's degrees in Political Science; he also holds a doctorate in Political Science from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in an impressive career primarily focused in higher education and higher education policy, Dr. Brian Noland's work has furthered the work of THEC in many ways; Dr. Noland's colleagues praise his respectful and diligent demeanor and commend his willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Noland was intimately involved with several major public policy initiatives at THEC, including the development of a statewide master plan for Tennessee and

the development and implementation of a statewide K-16 initiative centered on transitioning students to postsecondary education; he also took a leadership role in numerous statewide policy initiatives in such areas as performance funding, the development of a county-by-county educational needs index, institutional accountability, and the Tennessee P-16 Council; and

WHEREAS, focused upon helping those most in need, Dr. Brian Noland, known as the Jerry West of Higher Education Commission executives, contributed invaluable work to the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship program, and he worked tirelessly to champion the cause of affordable higher education in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, demonstrating the utmost respect for individual members of the General Assembly, Dr. Noland has consistently provided accurate data and timely analysis, and he worked closely with the legislature on many significant education issues and initiatives; and

WHEREAS, while working as a higher education administrator, Dr. Brian Noland also served as an adjunct faculty member in the College of Education at Tennessee State University, in the division of Arts and Sciences at Nashville State Community College, and at Peabody College of Vanderbilt University; additionally, Dr. Noland served as an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Political Science at the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brian Noland's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Dr. Brian E. Noland is fortunate to share both love and companionship with his wife, Donna, who is a nurse practitioner, and the two are proud parents of an eighteen-month-old son, Jackson; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brian Noland is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Noland is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized for his exemplary service to the Higher Education Commission of this state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Dr. Brian E. Noland for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee as Associate Executive Director of Policy, Planning and Research for the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction, congratulate him on his accession to the post of Chancellor of West Virginia's higher education system, and offer our best wishes for his every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.